GODLESS DRIVEL

#1

Created By Quatral.

- some artsy 90s cartoon

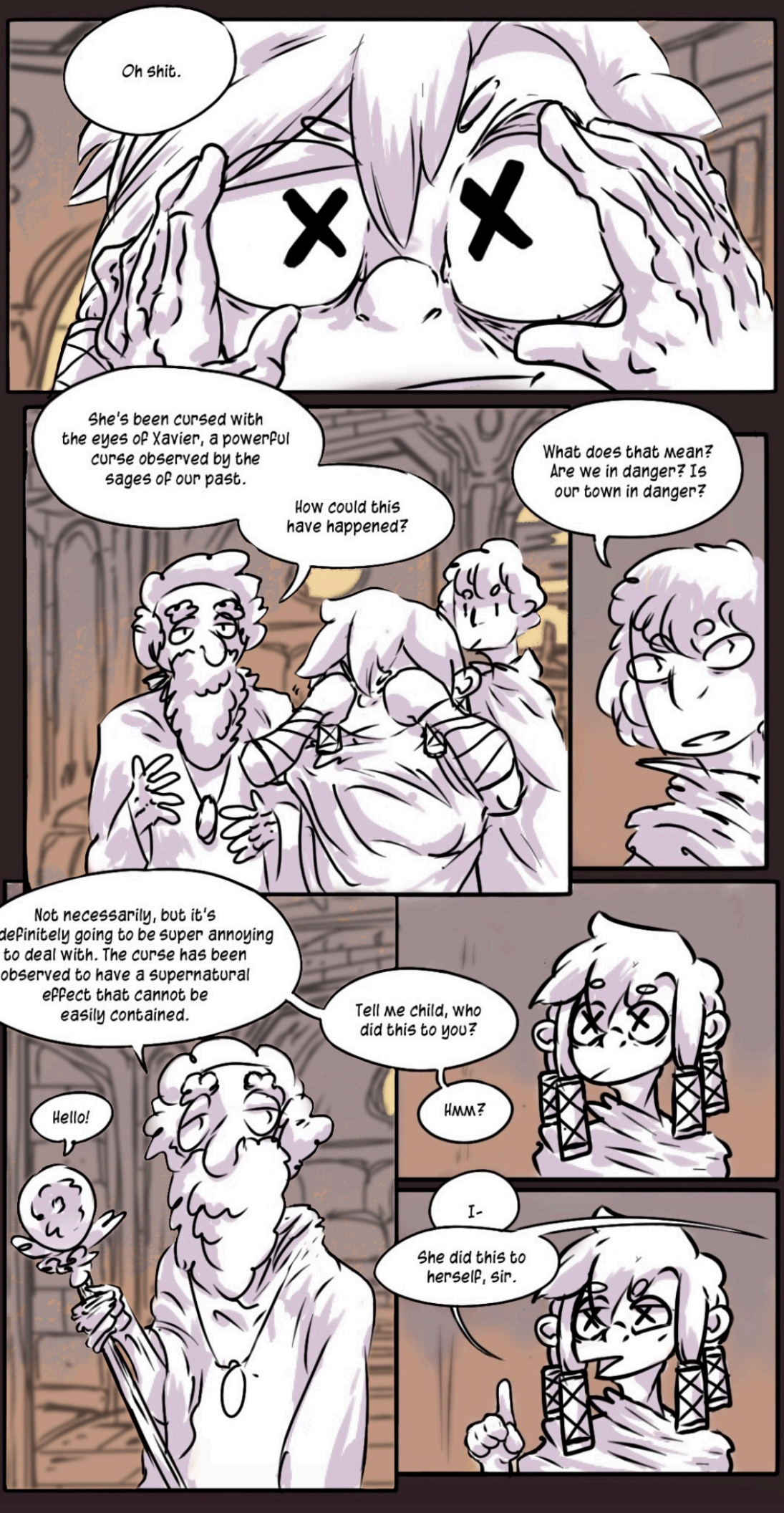
Thank you for downloading my comic, it was a lot of fun to make and I appreciate the interest!

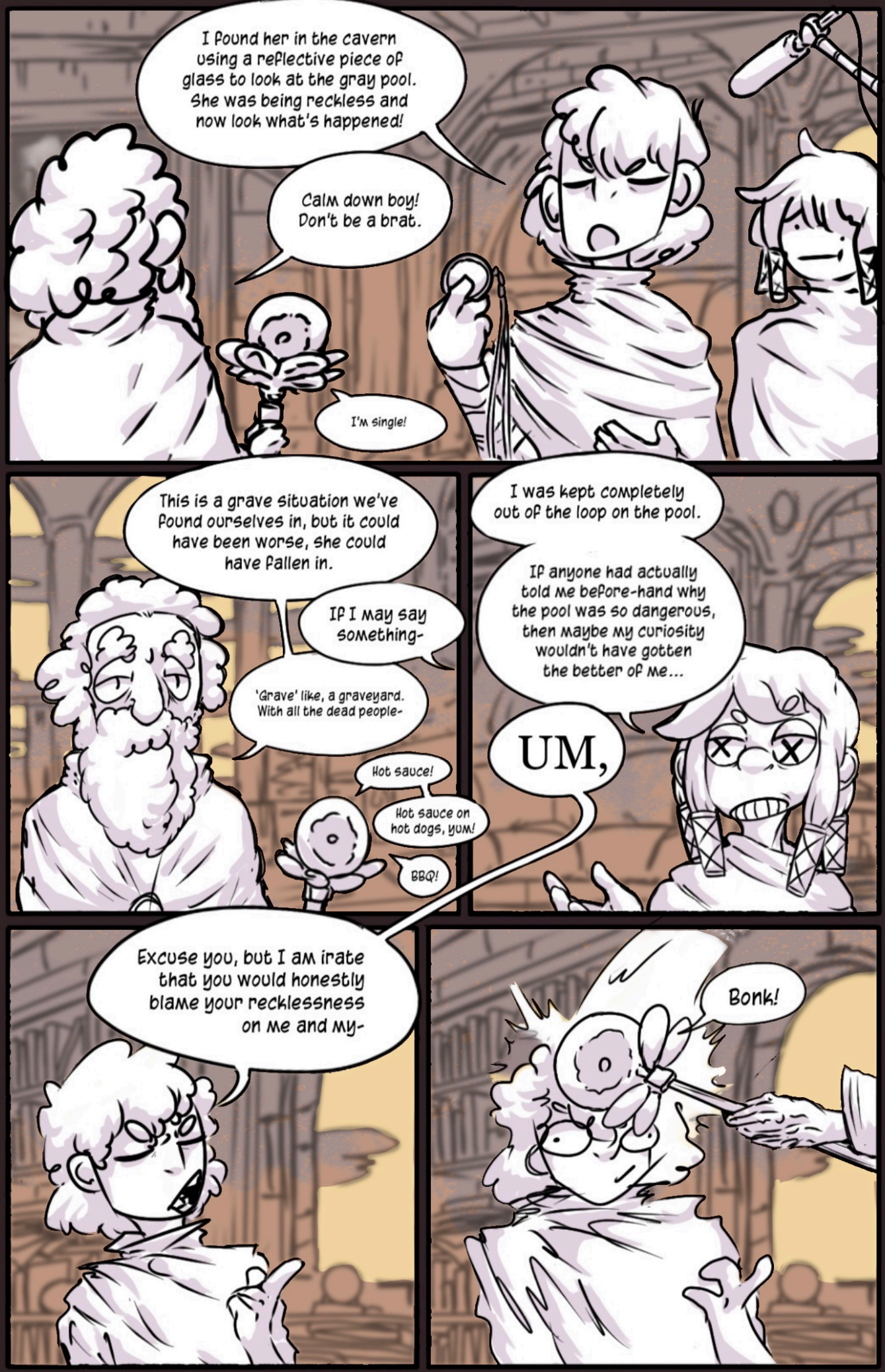
This comic was made in ArtStudio (then later in Procreate) and was published between January of 2018 and July of 2018, being uploaded on Smackjeeves and (and later Twitter) twice a week. To those who followed each update closely, and gave me so much great feedback, thank you <3

You can follow me on twitter at
https://twitter.com/softquentin ,
check out my DeviantArt at
https://www.deviantart.com/wetyuop3 ,
and even listen to some of my music at
https://agephage.bandcamp.com !

Thank you for reading!

- Quatral/Vincent


Oh shit.
She's been cursed with the eyes of Xavier, a powerful curse observed by the sages of our past.
How could this have happened?
What does that mean? Are we in danger? Is our town in danger?
Not necessarily, but it's definitely going to be super annoying to deal with. The curse has been observed to have a supernatural effect that cannot be easily contained.
Tell me child, who did this to you?
Hmm?
Hello!
I-
She did this to herself, sir.


I found her in the cavern using a reflective piece of glass to look at the gray pool. She was being reckless and now look what's happened!
Calm down boy! Don't be a brat.
I'm single!
This is a grave situation we've found ourselves in, but it could have been worse, she could have fallen in.
If I may say something-
'Grave' like, a graveyard. With all the dead people-
Hot sauce!
Hot sauce on hot dogs, yum!
BBQ!
I was kept completely out of the loop on the pool.
If anyone had actually told me before-hand why the pool was so dangerous, then maybe my curiosity wouldn't have gotten the better of me...
UM,
Excuse you, but I am irate that you would honestly blame your recklessness on me and my-
Bonk!

I am also disappointed in your recklessness, but you are absolutely right.
We should have told you what the pool was, often a wooden sign is not enough.
Beans.
Your curse, you will soon find out its effect, and I think you will also understand its potential for havoc, so I will not tell you now.
Please do not go near the gray pool again without first-consulting me, its power is an unstable one, and observation of it without careful procedure as you did can have bizarre after-effects such as what has happened to your eyes.
Of course.
k thx
Sir, please may I ask, what is it? I've heard rumors and hearsay, but no one has told us what it really is.
Michael told everyone it was the bath of a fertility goddess, and that bathing in it will make you irresistible.
Hmm!
Michael's been on the mead lately, I wouldn't be too sure of that.
I didn't say I believed him! I wouldn't need it anyway, I'm already irresistible.
I wouldn't be too sure of that either.
The grey pool is a rift in time.
What??

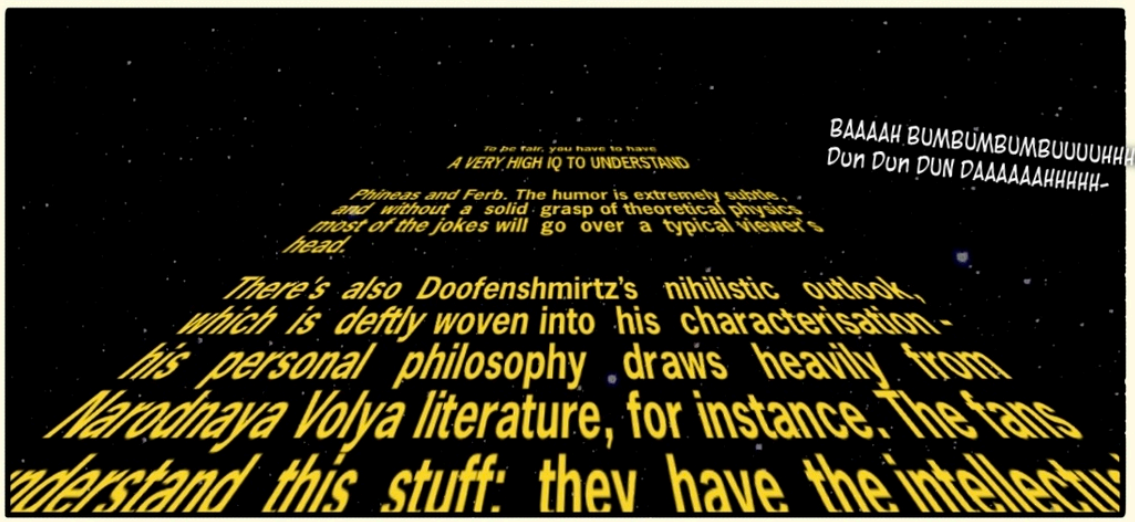
It's a very dangerous window that allows us to peer into the distant future as if it were right before us.
The events shown do not seem to be consistently linear and I fear it has the potential to alter our fate in the worst possible way.
Beans, please summon the doctor, we'll need to have Mocha checked for any other adverse side effects.
Yes sir.
Beans!!!
Child I need you to be completely and totally honest with me. The next question I ask you may decide the fate of our entire village.
Oh?
The influence of the pool is deadly, that much you understand of course, but the real danger is in the knowledge we obtain from it, and how we interpret said knowledge.
Hmm!

This may be the most important question you've ever been asked, and you may not know how to answer me at first, but I want you to answer me anyway.
Yes of course.
When you looked into the pool, the grey pool, what did you see?
I'm still single...
Episode V, The Empire Strikes Back.

BWAAAAAHHHHHH!!!

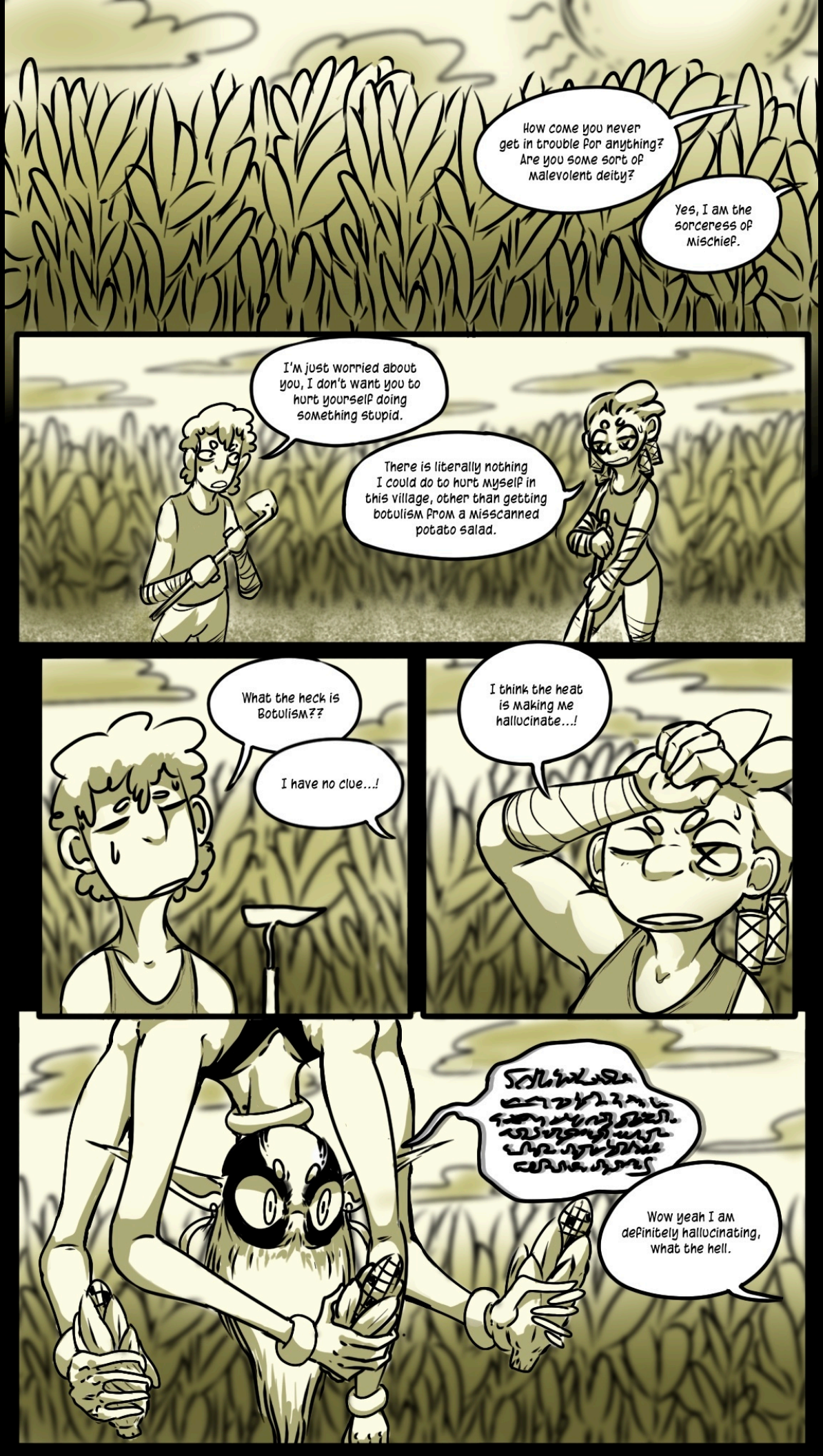
GODLESS
DRIVEL
Budabuuum!! Bumbumbum
Bum bum bum bum do do DOOOOO
Bum bum bum -
A Webcomic by Quatral

Duuuh DUUUH dud duh duh
DAAAAHHH da duh duh duh
DAAAAAAAHHH
Dah dah dah dunnnnnn!!!!
GODLESS
DRIVEL
A Webcomic by Quatral
Bum BUUUM BUUUUUMMMM!!!
Bumbumbum BAAAAAHHHH!!!!
Baaah bum bum bAAAAAHHHHHHH!!!!
To be fair, you have to have
A VERY HIGH IQ TO UNDERSTAND
Phineas and Ferb. The humor is extremely subtle,

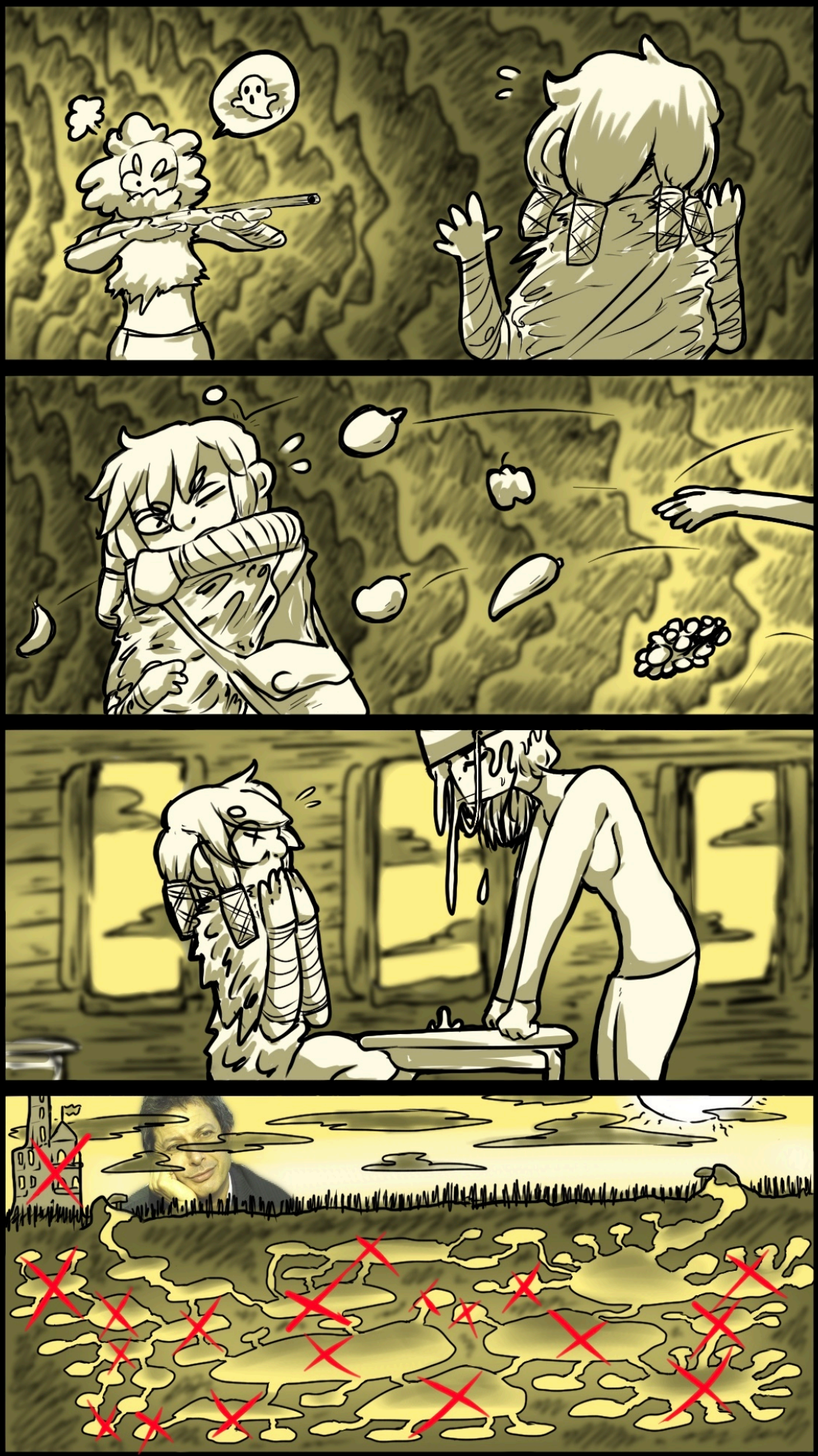

BAAAAH BUMBUMBUMBUUUUHHHH
Dun Dun DUN DAAAAAAHHHHH-
To be fair, you have to have
A VERY HIGH IQ TO UNDERSTAND
Phineas and Ferb. The humor is extremely subtle,
and without a solid grasp of theoretical physics
most of the jokes will go over a typical viewer's
head.
There's also Doofenshmirtz's nihilistic outlook,
which is deftly woven into his characterisation.-
his personal philosophy draws heavily from
Narodnaya Volya literature, for instance. The fans
understand this stuff: they have the intellectu

Is there anything else we need to do today? I think my chores are all done...
You should tell papa about the curse, he's gonna want to know what happened to your eyes.
I can just wear sunglasses for the rest of my life, no biggie
no!
He's gonna get mad, you better tell him soon.
Look, look I'M super cool and mysterious and attractive!
You're stupid, your face is stupid, I hate you so much.
Hi kids are you playing nice ?
Papa, Mocha looked at the-
Dad I got cursed by the grey pool and Beans is trying to get me in trouble!
Wrow...!

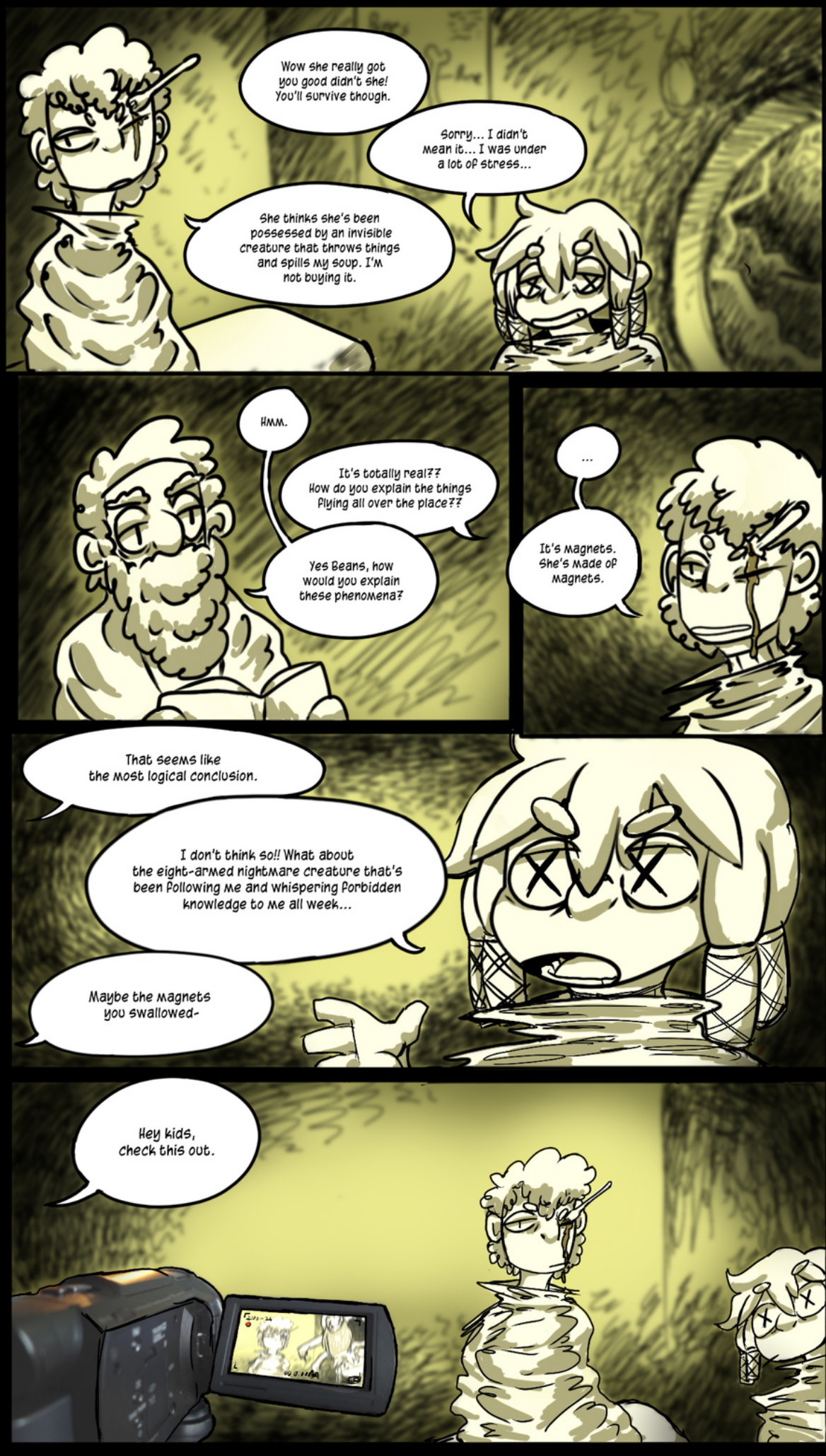
Beans don't be a snitch, also help me with this corn please.
What?? Are you not remotely worried about her looking at the pool without anyone's permission??
Why should I be worried? She seems okay.
In fact, she looks extremely cool.
Heck yeah I do.
I hate corn... hat
hate this pan
Now wait a minute!
Don't diss the corn, Beansprout. Don't ever diss the corn.
You can always trust in corn. It is your savior, it brought you into this world and it can take you out of it again.
...

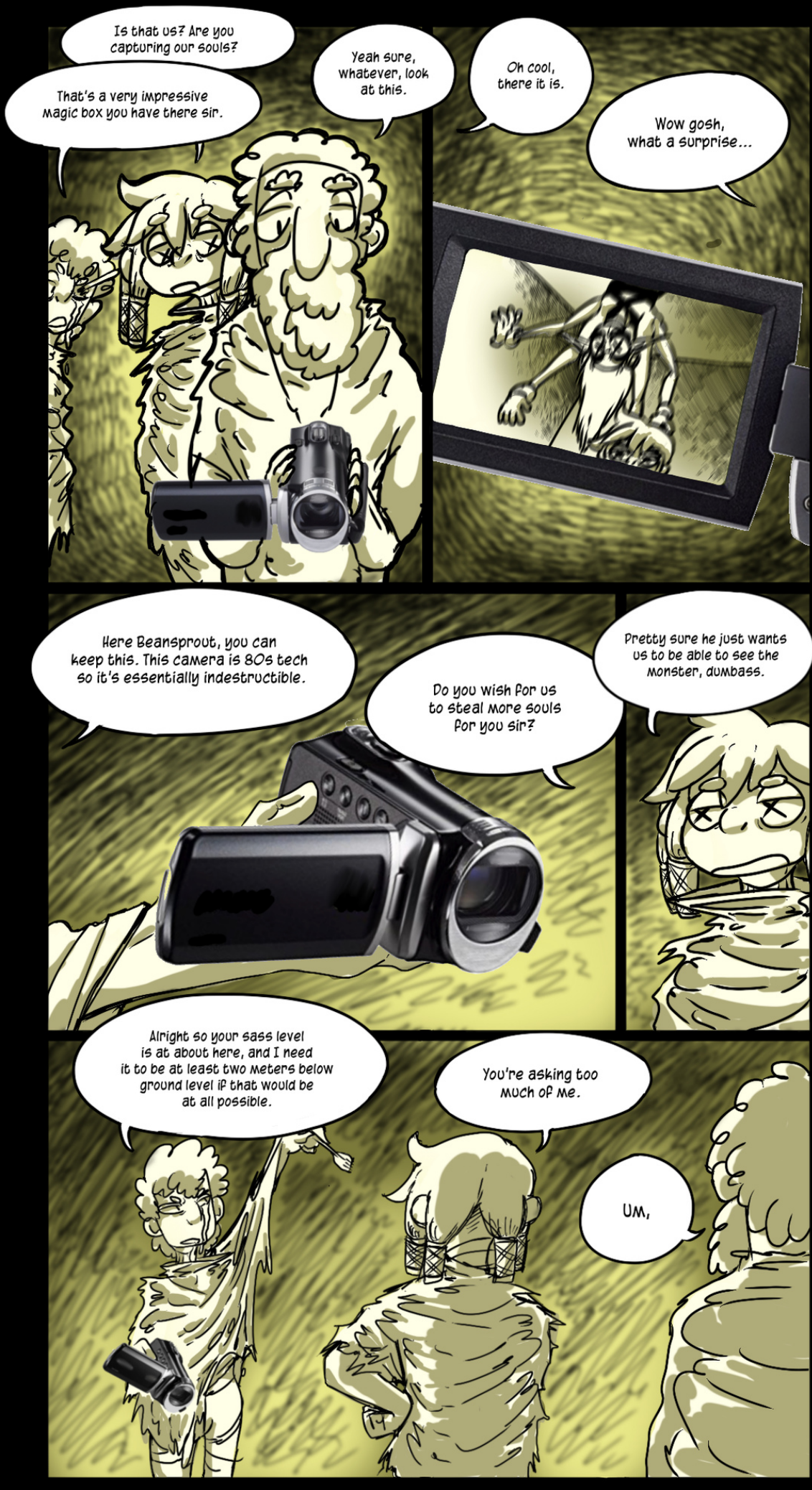

How come you never get in trouble for anything? Are you some sort of malevolent deity?
Yes, I am the sorceress of mischief.
I'm just worried about you, I don't want you to hurt yourself doing something stupid.
There is literally nothing I could do to hurt myself in this village, other than getting botulism from a misscanned potato salad.
What the heck is Botulism??
I have no clue...!
I think the heat is making me hallucinate...!
Wow yeah I am definitely hallucinating, what the hell.

Hello Mocha, what can I do for you today?
I need herbs, dad wants to make soup for din-din.
Oh heck we got ghosts
Hmm?
SMASH!!
You can't see it either??
See what? What's going on?
Are you doing this?? Go away!!! Shoo!!!
Aahhhh???!!!?? OK sorry goodbye???????
Pwoosh Pwoosh!!
Shoo!!!
CRASH!!



Hey Mo have you seen my book on tilling corn? The hoe's acting up again and I need...
to get it working... again...
Mo are you okay?
No problem I was just gonna gouge my eyes out...
Oh, how about you don't do that??
It's the curse Beans it's in my eyes so if pop em out then people will like me again!
Ok you've lost it, give me the spork.
But-
Give me the spork Mocha!
AAHH!!!


Wow she really got you good didn't she! You'll survive though.
Sorry... I didn't mean it... I was under a lot of stress...
She thinks she's been possessed by an invisible creature that throws things and spills my soup. I'm not buying it.
Hmm.
It's totally real?? How do you explain the things flying all over the place??
Yes Beans, how would you explain these phenomena?
...
It's magnets. She's made of magnets.
That seems like the most logical conclusion.
I don't think so!! What about the eight-armed nightmare creature that's been following me and whispering forbidden knowledge to me all week...
Maybe the magnets you swallowed-
Hey kids, check this out.


Is that us? Are you capturing our souls?
That's a very impressive magic box you have there sir.
Yeah sure, whatever, look at this.
Oh cool, there it is.
Wow gosh, what a surprise...
Here Beansprout, you can keep this. This camera is 80s tech so it's essentially indestructible.
Do you wish for us to steal more souls for you sir?
Pretty sure he just wants us to be able to see the monster, dumbass.
Alright so your sass level is at about here, and I need it to be at least two meters below ground level if that would be at all possible.
You're asking too much of me.
Um,

I think it'd be in your best interest to use that device to maintain surveillance of the creature, and along with that I also think it'd be ideal to find a way to communicate with it.
But Mocha can already communicate with it can't she?
It's just been thinking loudly at me, I can't reply.
I have a grocery list of ingredients that we could use to make a translation device, if you could obtain them for me that would be ideal.
I don't wanna do anything I just wanna sleep.
Don't be lazy, I'm guessing it's a short list anyway. Besides, if we succeed we can finally tell that thing to leave you alone.
Beansprout's got the right idea, the list is only three items, and they're not hard to find.
Now please get out of my house, I have lonely crying to do.

You're holding the map sideways, we should've taken a left before.
Do you think we'll find ghouls out here? I've never been this far from the caves before.
We'll probably get eaten by wolves before the ghouls find us.
At least if we die out here the other villagers can see what happened on our camera, it saves what it sees onto a tiny rectangle called a "tape"!
That's great. What are we looking for again?
Volcanic rock, there was an eruption a few centuries ago near here and the old guy thinks it may have spit up some raw diamonds.
Seriously?? Why don't we just look for some down in the caves?
Dumbass, the caves were mined dry before we were even born. They were right, our family really is secluded...

Hey what's that? I see something shiny over there...
It's a forest demon! Maybe it can help.
Hello, sorry to bother you but do you know where we can find-
Volcanic rock? Possibly. Why are you two out so late? Don't you know it's dangerous out here at night?
We didn't want our dad to catch us.
We brought an axe, and we're ready to roll heads if necessary.
Oh! Well if you're not too scared...
There's a cliff-face about a mile in that direction, that should have what you're looking for.
Thank you!
Except, I really wouldn't recommend being out here at night, this isn't a safe place to be. When you're done doing whatever it is you're doing, I can escort you back home if you'd like...
Hmm!
We can find our own way, thanks...
We'll be careful, thank you for your help!
Anytime.

Bumbumbum-bumbadum.... got any grapes?
No? Are you okay? You keep saying weird nonsense.
TAK
Yeah! I have no clue what that's about. I think looking into the pool earlier infused my brain with random visions of the future, popular culture and all that.
Well okay it's not our future, but a concurrent time in a different universe running along at the same speed as ours, and eventually ours will resemble that one... but not for a couple centuries...
Am I making sense?
You're being really annoying. Have you found any diamonds yet?
Yeah, but they're too small.
I'M looking for chunks that would be about three to four inches big.
So... chunks, huh?
3-4 inches
Ope! I found one. Come to daddy!
How's that for a diamond, eh? Finally we've found some use for these things.

Where did it go? It took the camera too!
It crawled up into the trees, hang on I'M gonna go up after them.
Oh!
Hey!
Luckily, I have just the thing for this.
Why do you have that???
You never know when there might be something you need to till!
My trusty Ploozy!
She can help me climb the trees.

THUNK!
Stay right there, This'll only take a second!
Good luck with that. The plot's counting on you.
Hyah!!
Okay, you gotta give that diamond back. We need it to understand you!
Hmm?

Thank you, let's get down-
YANK!
BONK!!!
Hey! Don't Mess With Me!
Don't tease Me... just give it-
YANK!
Guh!!
TRIP!

Oh, that was quick.
WHUMP!
Did you get the diamond back?
Do you think maybe you could like, help me with this?
I gotta catch up on my readings. Plus, I have a fear of heights so I wouldn't be able to do much, sorry.
Alright, whatever.
I'm rootin' for ya!
Mhmm.
TAK!
Urgh!

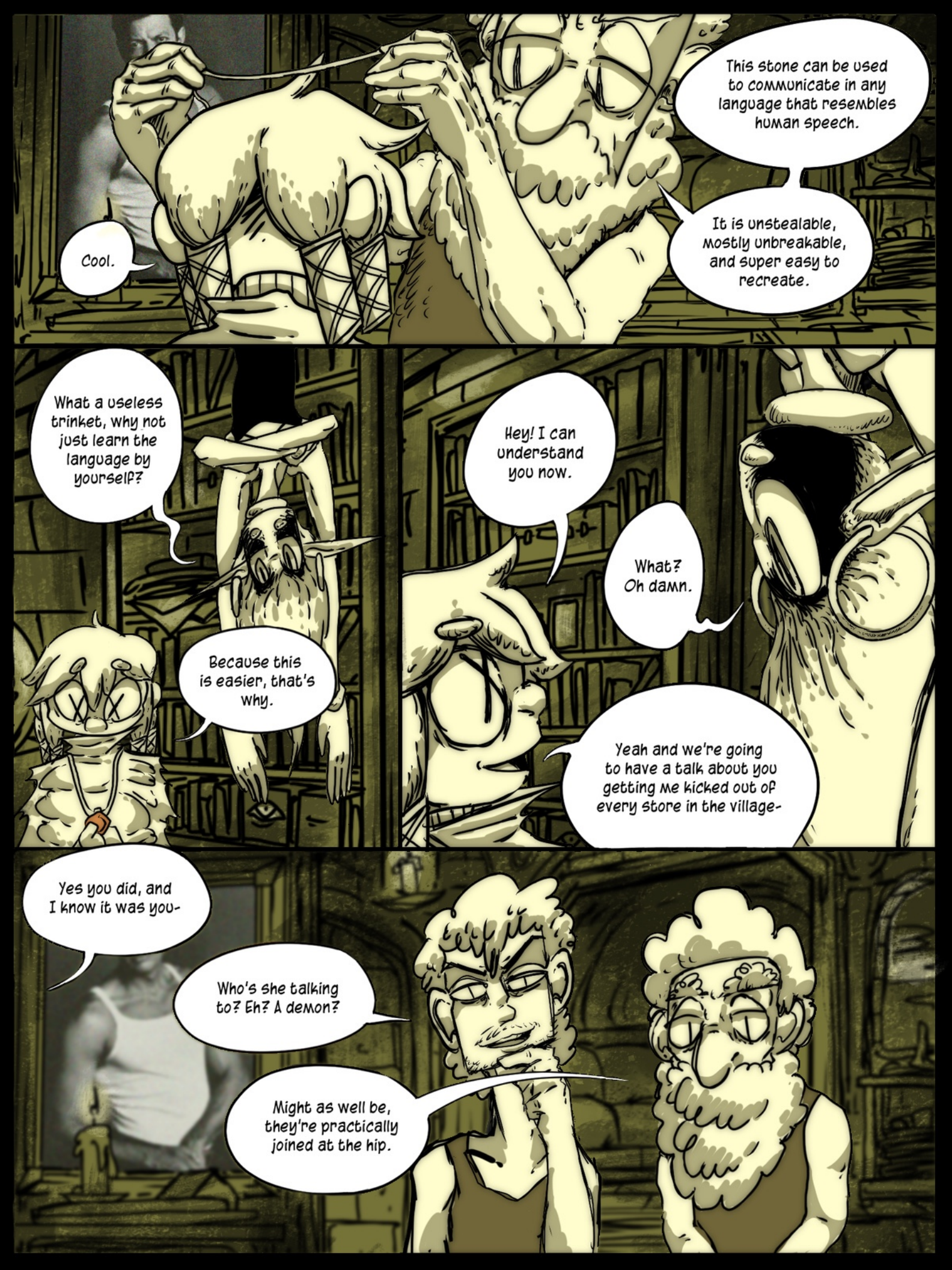
Alright you miserable pseudo-deity, I didn't want to have to use this but seems I'm out of options!
FLARE LIGHT!!
SPICY!
Look at this hot potato, bright and distracting isn't it?
Ehh? You want it?
Nope! Off-limits for curse monsters.
I thought you were faster than that, huh?

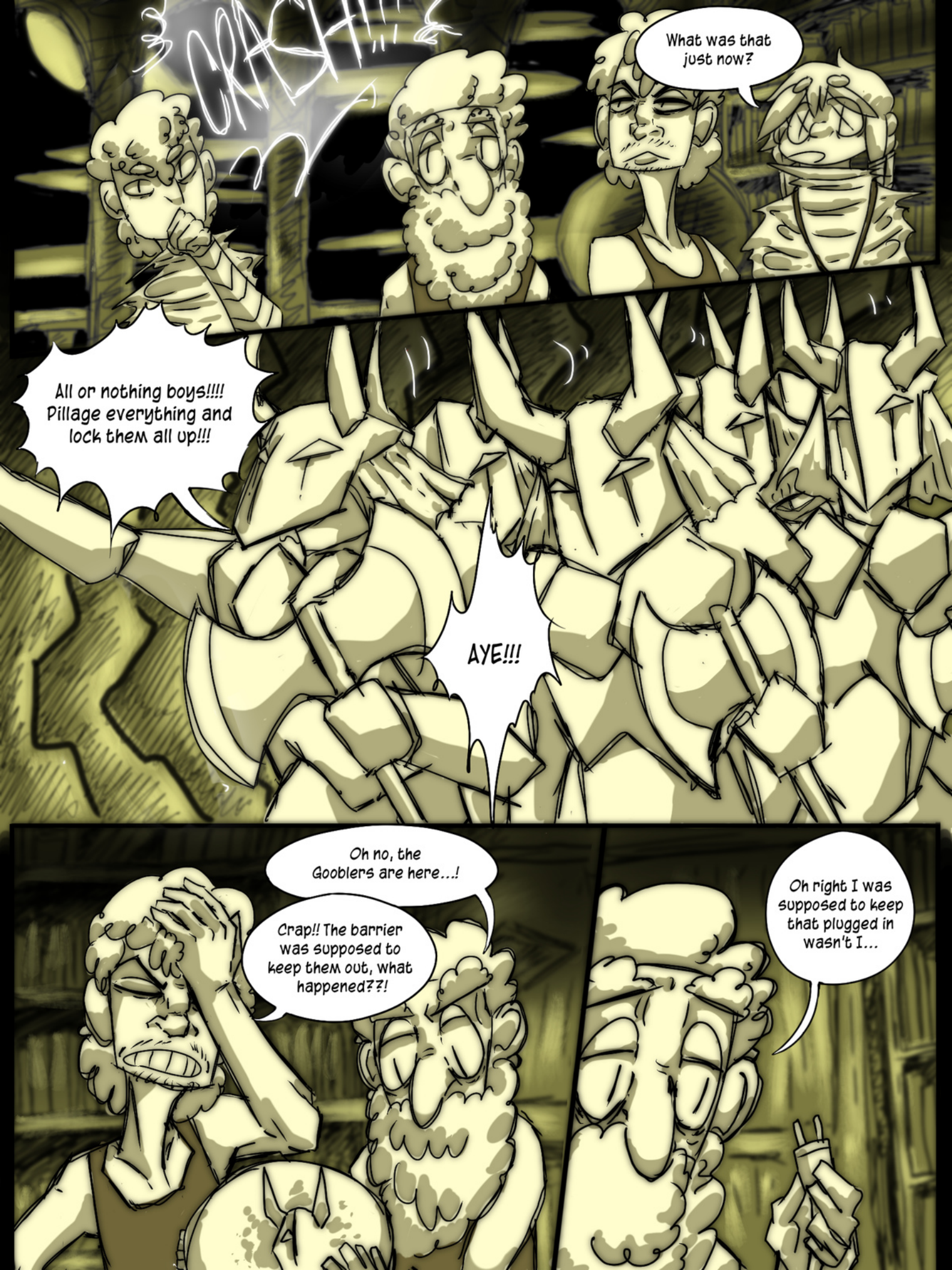
DROP!
Go fetch the spicy stick!!
FWOOSH!
Ah ha, we've found new hunting ground...!

Please stop talking.
Beans!! Look, I got it back!
You dumb kids!!!
Someone's running at us. Should we do something?
I dunno, maybe we should leave?
Wait a minute, Don't do anyt-
-thing..?

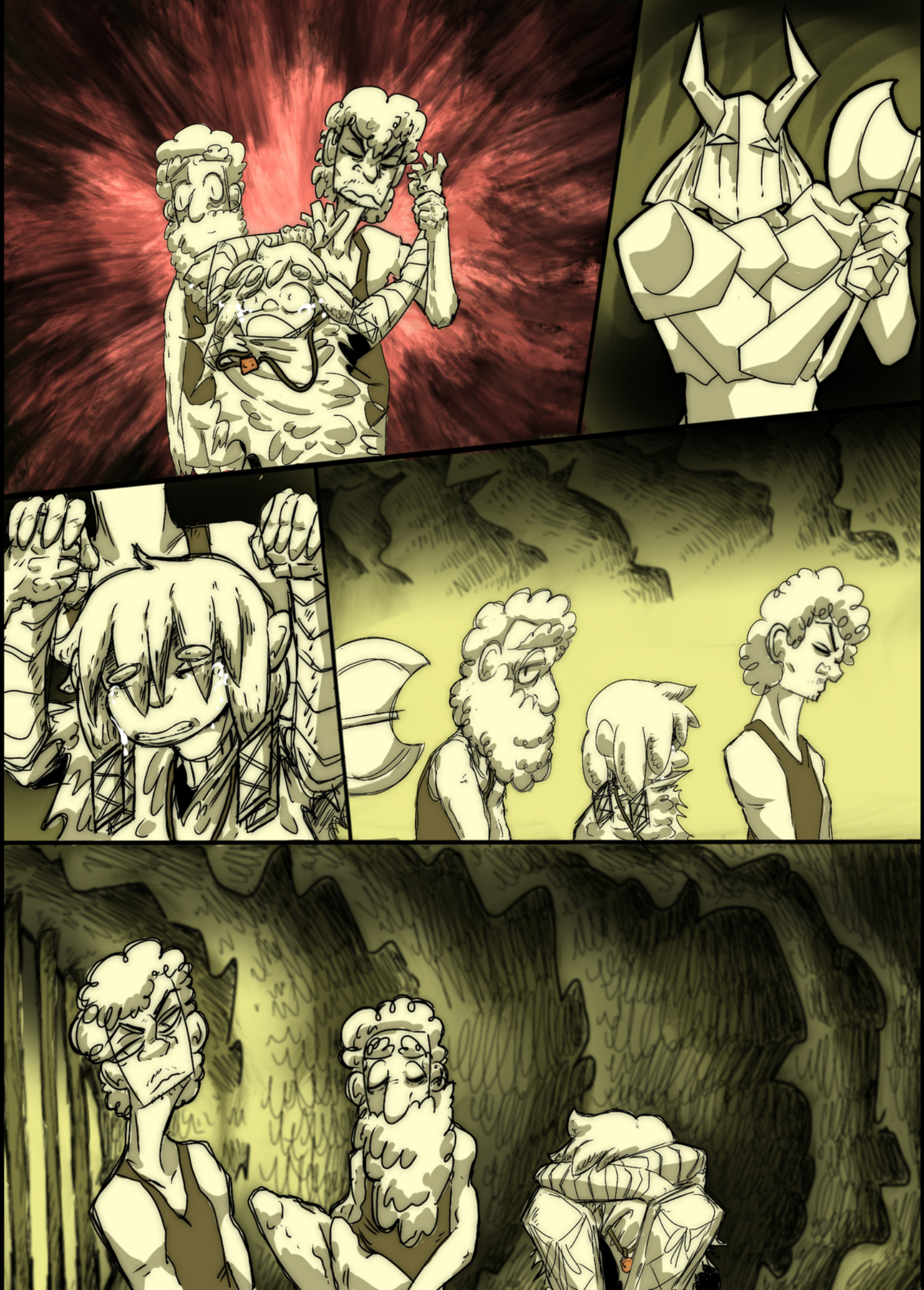
Your turn old man... You need a yellow or a six.
Hmm...
Yellow, a six, or a wild card.
Mhmm..
I'll fold.
You can't do that. You have to play a card or draw another.
Go fish.
PAFF!
Oh, my kids are here.
Hello there! What a surprise.
I think I might puke, stand back.
Woozy skoozy doozy...!

Are you making a translation crystal? What for?
I'll show you! First we have to ionize it.
BLUP
We'll use my sorcery oven.
2:00
SAMSUNG™
Two minutes, beep!
Ding! It's done.
0:45
Whhrrrrrrrr....
0:00
Excellent.
Now we need to fossilize it to maintain the instability.
Next we'll stick it in the fridge for a few seconds.
Who knew magic was so easy?
Shush child. This is science happening.
Now what? Do we have to dip it in anything?
Not at all! It's finished already. Here.
And it's done, eh? Home-made.

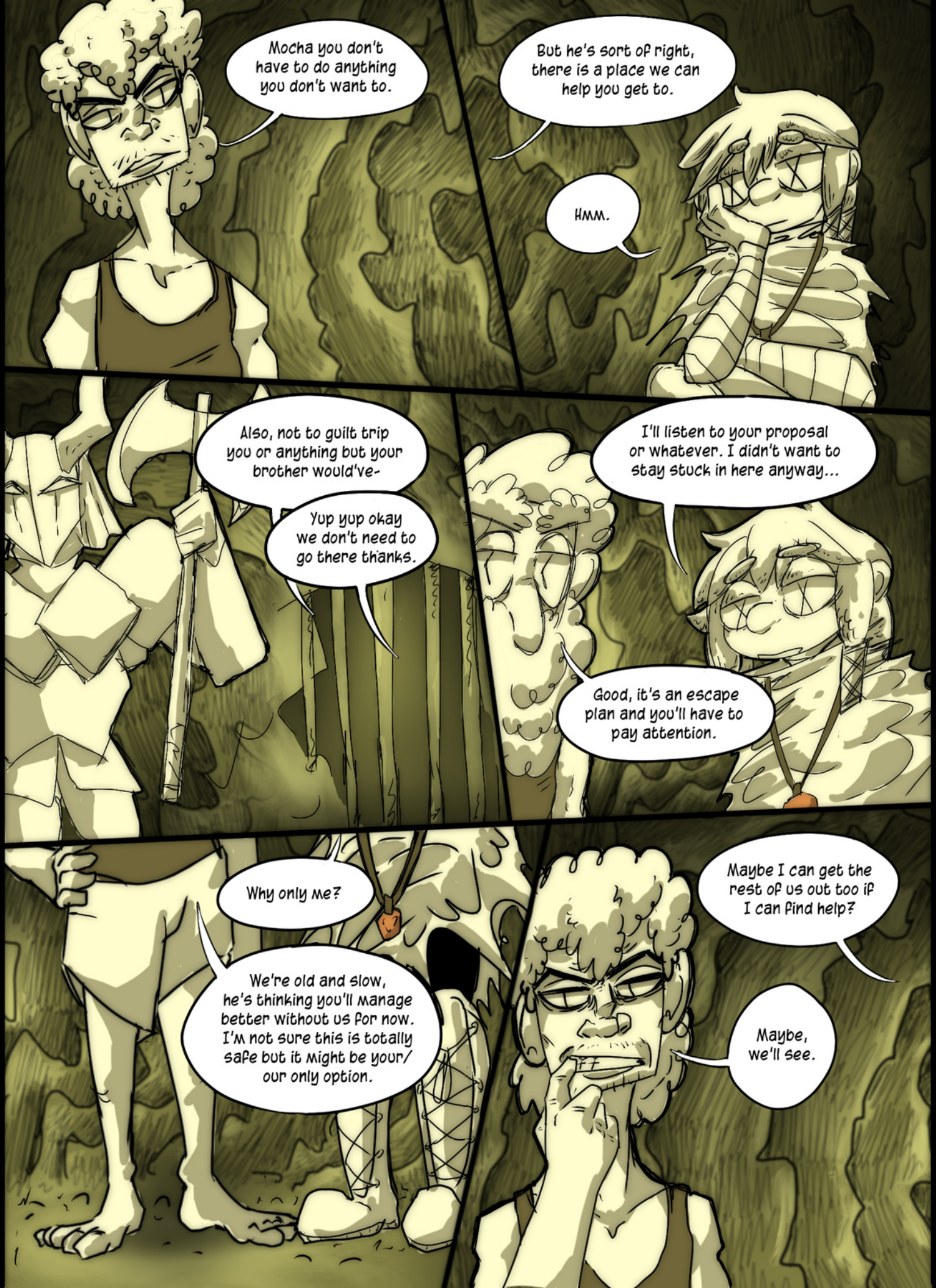

This stone can be used to communicate in any language that resembles human speech.
It is unstealable, mostly unbreakable, and super easy to recreate.
Cool.
What a useless trinket, why not just learn the language by yourself?
Because this is easier, that's why.
Hey! I can understand you now.
What? Oh damn.
Yeah and we're going to have a talk about you getting me kicked out of every store in the village-
Yes you did, and I know it was you-
Who's she talking to? Eh? A demon?
Might as well be, they're practically joined at the hip.

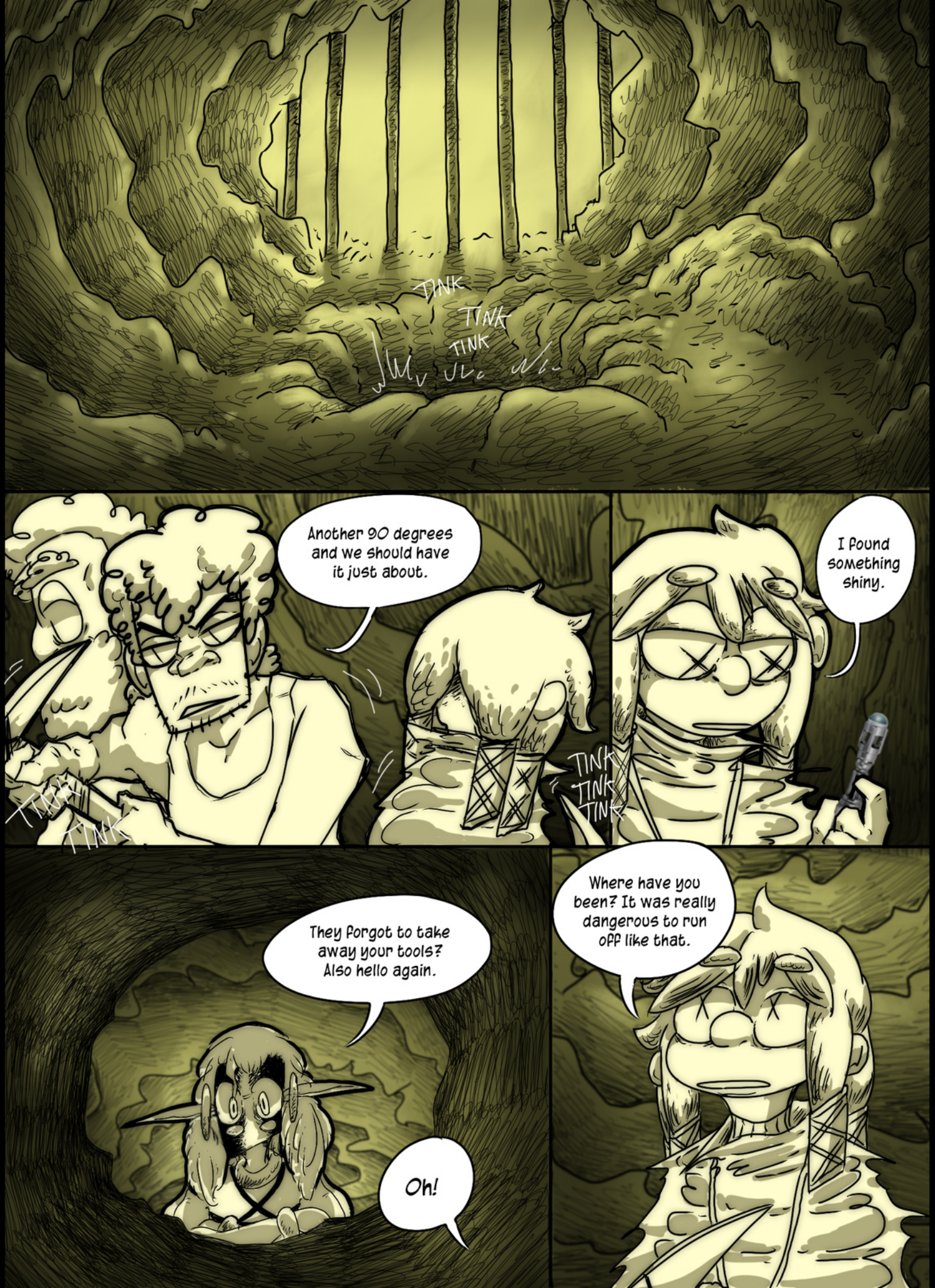

CRASH!!!
What was that just now?
All or nothing boys!!!! Pillage everything and lock them all up!!!
AYE!!!
Oh no, the Gooblers are here...!
Crap!! The barrier was supposed to keep them out, what happened??!
Oh right I was supposed to keep that plugged in wasn't I...

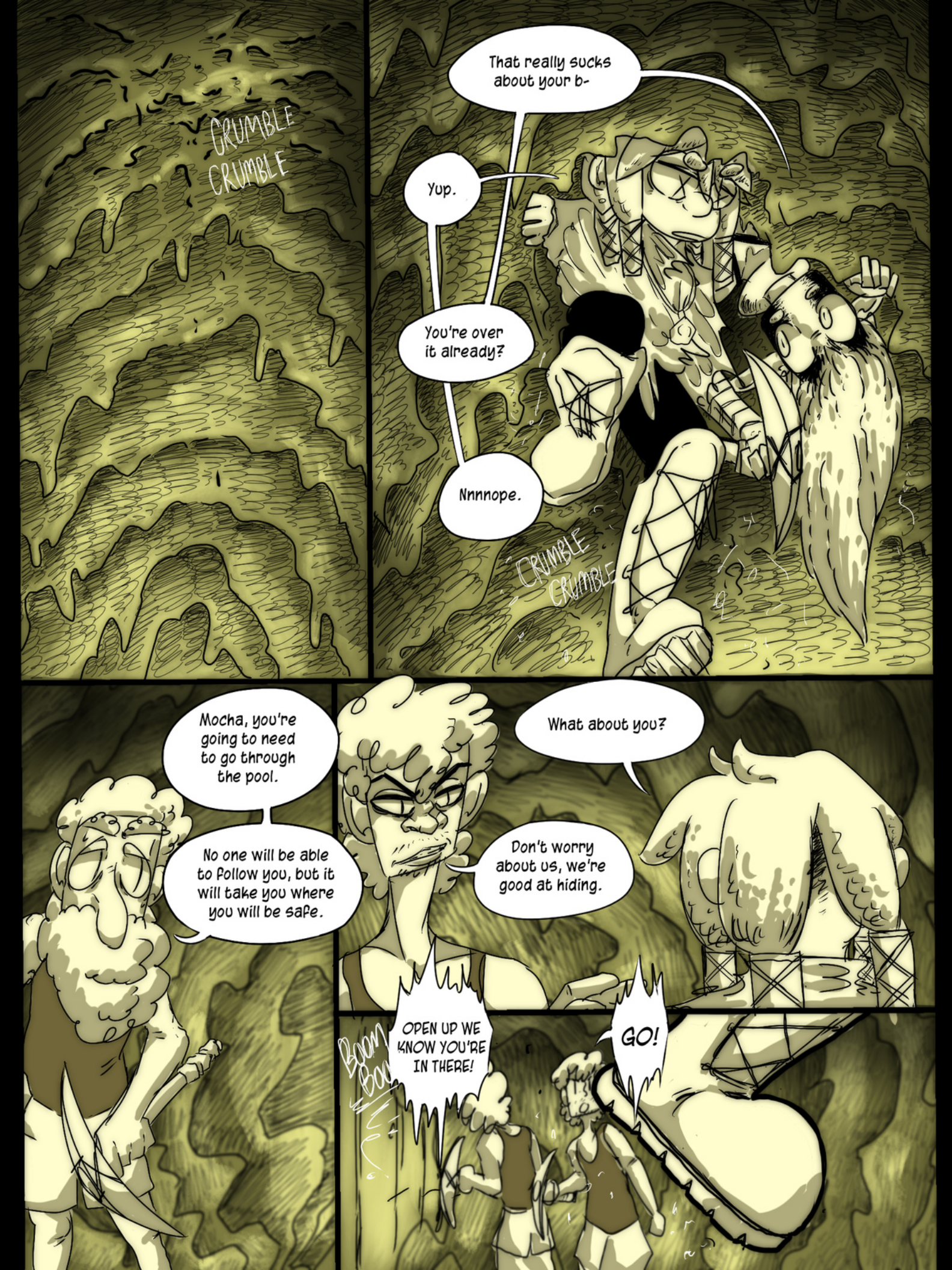
Wait wait okay, who are the "Gooblers?" Why have I never heard of them?
Evil pillaging race, will most likely kill us if they don't decide to sell us off as slaves. They're not fun to think about!
Should we be worried?
Maybe I should go...!
Haha!! I knew we'd find more of them in here.
We're not resisting, please don't hurt us.
I'm resisting!! Who said it was okay to-
Beansprout don't-
CRUNCH!!

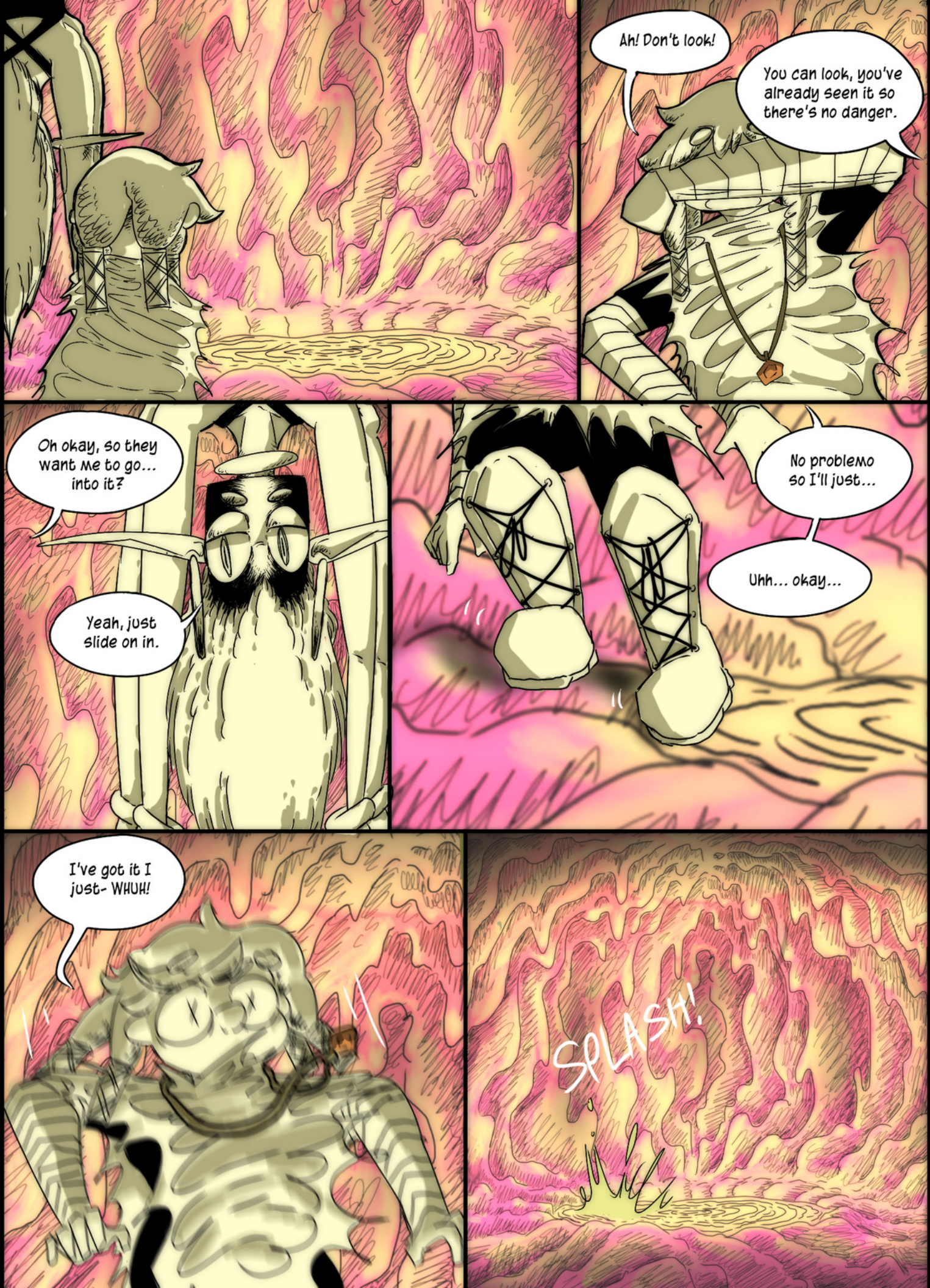


I know you're sad.
However, I know a way to get you out.
Dad, leave her alone.
Why would I want to get out? There's nothing out there for me.
Hard times like these always have a solution-
Yes there is!
Dad, stop talking, Mocha don't listen to him.
Not here, but out past the barrier of our reality there's so much.
Through the grey pool, out into the other worlds. You know what I'm talking about, you saw it yourself.
What do you mean?
I don't know what I saw.


Mocha you don't have to do anything you don't want to.
But he's sort of right, there is a place we can help you get to.
Hmm.
Also, not to guilt trip you or anything but your brother would've-
Yup yup okay we don't need to go there thanks.
I'll listen to your proposal or whatever. I didn't want to stay stuck in here anyway...
Good, it's an escape plan and you'll have to pay attention.
Why only me?
We're old and slow, he's thinking you'll manage better without us for now. I'm not sure this is totally safe but it might be your/ our only option.
Maybe I can get the rest of us out too if I can find help?
Maybe, we'll see.


TINK
TINK
TINK
Another 90 degrees and we should have it just about.
TINK
TINK
I found something shiny.
TINK
TINK
TINK
They forgot to take away your tools? Also hello again.
Oh!
Where have you been? It was really dangerous to run off like that.


CRUMBLE
CRUMBLE
That really sucks about your b-
Yup.
You're over it already?
Nnnnope.
CRUMBLE
CRUMBLE
Mocha, you're going to need to go through the pool.
No one will be able to follow you, but it will take you where you will be safe.
What about you?
Don't worry about us, we're good at hiding.
OPEN UP WE KNOW YOU'RE IN THERE!
GO!


Ah! Don't look!
You can look, you've already seen it so there's no danger.
Oh okay, so they want me to go... into it?
Yeah, just slide on in.
No problemo so I'll just...
Uhh... okay...
I've got it I just- WHUH!
SPLASH!

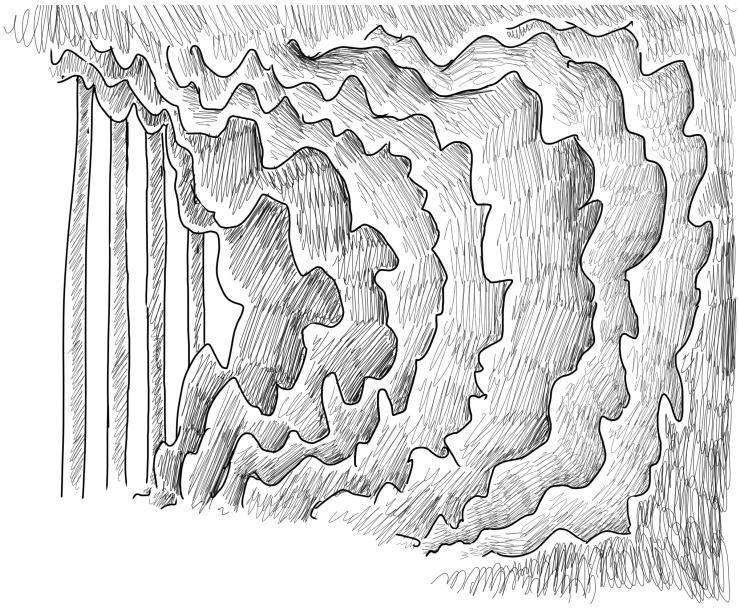
End Part One.

First Godless concept sketch, featuring Mocha and Beans. It was cold outside that day, so I imagined them in a winter tundra.

Bonus Content!

——— Where did this come from? ———

Godless was a wild invention that wandered into my brain during my January 2018 winter break. I was a Junior in college, and I was on a bit of a Doctor Who kick (one of the best shows to marathon, I've watched it a couple times through.) That show had a very ambitious set-up where everyone's an alien, figuratively and literally.

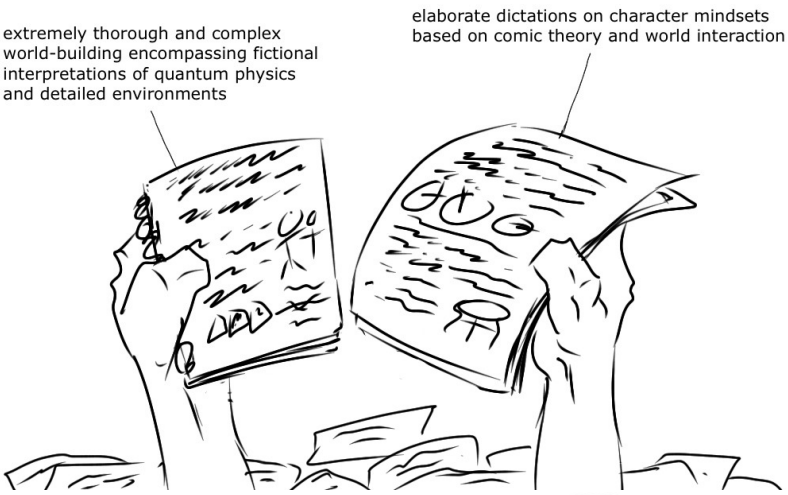


Gravel Village's tunnels showcased one of the last times I used my original cross-hatching shading style.

People from Earth visit other worlds, different times, and entire different dimensions. It is culture shock: the show. I wanted to do something like that.

I was also very bored. In 2018, I was unemployed, I couldn't drive, and I hid in my room all day to find peace of mind. My dog was ill, petscop was all the rage… it was a weird time.

I don't remember what I received for Christmas that year.



The beginning of the year had me energized with creative ideas, I had just taken a class on Game Theory and it had me thinking about math+reality and grand cosmic blueprints, very elaborate stuff.

Completely unusable for a comic, or so I thought.

In the later half of 2017, I had been interested in doing a fully digital webcomic (like LE but with a simplified color pallet) and I wanted to do it RIGHT.

I studied online what the best webcomics did, what sites they used, what they did to avoid burnout, etc. All this manifested in me taking my complicated story ideas and combining them with a simple art style like that of the test comics I did in 2017 >

(Project Oxygen was an abandoned comic idea I had wherein a high schooler, the daughter of an archeologist, combined her DNA with that of an extinct species of mermaid in order to explore the ruins of their underwater civilization.

Someone told me it looked “weird”, so I decided to scrap it. I didn’t have any faith in my art back then.)

——— Characters ———

I knew I wanted a female protagonist, and I knew I didn't want her to look like every other comic's character, so I focused on her strange X_X eyes, gave her a round nose, and made her design shaped around circles, because I'd been doing a lot of sharp rectangles with Vestige.

Aesthetically I was thinking very Puritan America, for Mocha. I wanted to write someone who would make jokes, instead of ranting about politics like the Vestige protags. Her canon age is about 17, and her original name was Astrix, after the type face. At one point she was named "Porngle."

I was planning to name them all after punctuation, but I scrapped that when I realized lots of people have OCs named "Astrix." I went with Coffee-themed names instead.

Mocha's design is centered around the X motif, to make her the most recognizable.

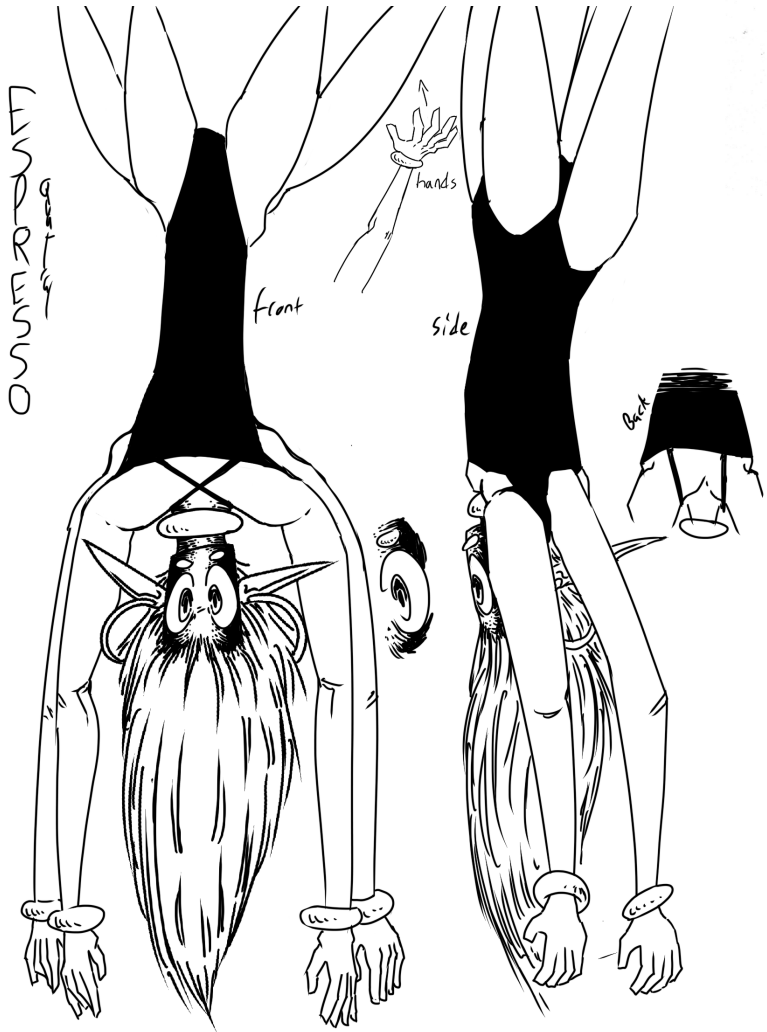
Beans was a vent character, in that he was designed to be an asshole. He was meant to be a caricature of all the insecurity I was feeling at the time.

At one point I think he was meant to turn into a monster and try to kill Mocha. I wasn't feeling well.

Espresso went unnamed for several months. They were described in my script as a “shocking, bizarre creature” meant to give the comic an element of strangeness.

I was thinking about imaginary friends (ever make a friend in a dream and then forget they exist until now? It’s a very sad feeling) and I was LOVING the idea of a poltergeist harassing Mocha, like a Jojo stand or a paranoid delusion.

Other ideas for Mocha’s curse were superpowers that were curated by Espresso, that being insatiable hunger, x-ray vision that she couldn’t control, or an inability to sleep. Espresso was always going to be there to bug her about it, like Ryuk from Death Note.



Espresso shares Mocha’s X motif, to show the characters are “connected.”

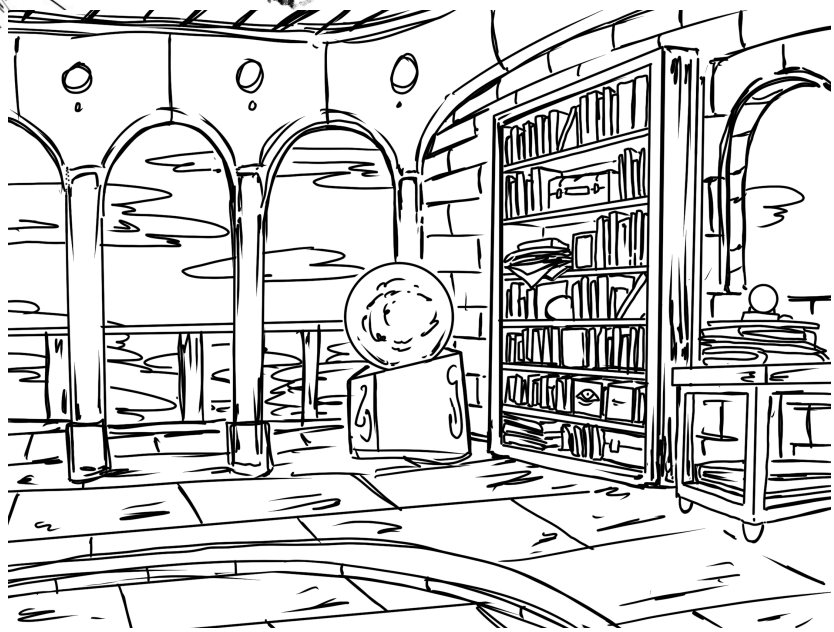
Early designs were based on NiGHTS, a Jester character created by SEGA.

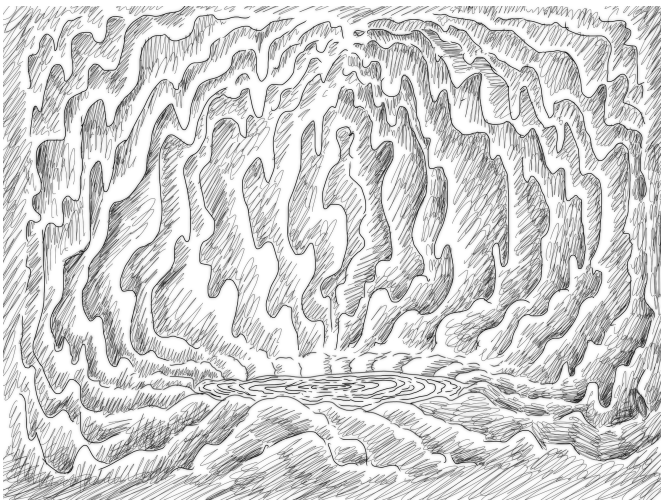
Espresso has the honor of being my strangest looking character to date, mostly because of his upside-down motif. His face and ears are right-side up, but the rest of him is hanging from the ceiling. He also has eight arms, each ending in a hand.

A sketch for abandoned promotional art.

—— —- Other Stuff ———

The back cover was the first in a long line of body-horror surreal artworks that I've begun using repeatedly for Godless.

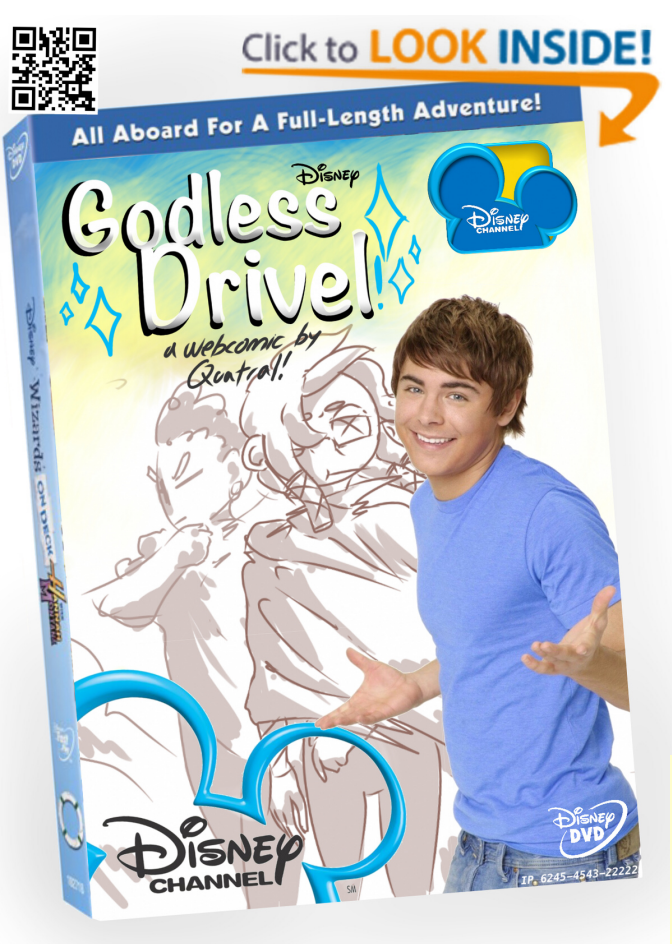




Godless's settings were drawn with lots of scratchy detail to contrast the simple designs of the characters. Backgrounds were recycled for multiple panels to avoid burn-out, and shading was done per-panel.
Pictures of Jeff Goldblum were also added.

Old Guy's lair's backdrops were redrawn in 2020 because the originals were traced from images I found on google.

Godless chapters have very simple color schemes to avoid burn-out while still having colorful panels.
Each Chapter has an individual color. Ch.1 is yellow, Ch. 2 is pink, Ch. 3 is Green, etc. This is done to differentiate between the worlds and to keep my eyes from bleeding.



The original cover for the comic. The first three were designed to look like physical objects, to stand out on a website. Ch1 was a DVD, Ch2 was a CD, and Ch3 was a PS2 game.

This one got pretty far before I thought up the final one. It's a little strange but I guess it was meant to emulate a spiritual vibe…?

I had the original covers replaced with detailed art of the characters to make it look more professional. These sketches were early rejected drafts.

The final cover resulted from me realizing Mocha's eyes and the underground GRAVE-L village suggested themes of Death and Graves. I leaned into that with this cover.

I absolutely love that this comic manifested the way it did, but I can't elaborate on the other concepts and concept art I thought of for it without spoiling the story.

This comic only works because I start small and end big, so you'll have to wait until like, Ch. 6 to see the larger themes of this specific Chapter's creation.

If you've gotten this far, thank you! I appreciate you taking the time to indulge my work.

I never thought anyone would, if I'm honest. I do truly appreciate it <3

- Q/V